## Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 02193 201511Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 IO-13 OMB-01 HA-05 ACDA-12 EB-08 OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 NSCE-00 COME-00 /124 W

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR NL US
SUBJECT: STRONG SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT FROM FORMER DUTCH
FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL

- 1. FORMER DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER MAX VAN DER STOEL, IN AN ADDRESS IN AMSTERDAM APRIL 18, GAVE STRONG AND EMPHATIC SUPPORT TO THE PRESIDENT AND TO THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION.
- 2. IN A WELL-ATTENDED PUBLIC LECTURE AT THE EUROPE INSTITUTE, SPONSORED JOINTLY BY THAT ORGANIZATION AND THE NETHERLANDS SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, VAN DER STOEL FOCUSED ON THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IN UNUSUALLY FORTHRIGHT TERMS. DEALING IN TURN WITH US SUPPORT FOR NATO, HUMAN RIGHTS, NON-PROLIFERATION, ERW AND SALT, VAN DER STOEL GAVE A POSITIVE AND ELOQUENT ASSESSMENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S POLICIES. IN DOING SO, HE DID NOT SPARE CRITICISM OF EUROPE --AND THE FRG IN PARTICULAR.-FOR SHORTSIGHTEDNESS AND CYNICISM, SAYING HE WAS ASTOUNDED AT THE ARROGANCE WITH WHICH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S NON-PROLIFERATION POLICIES WERE MET BY SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 THE HA 02193 201511Z

IN EUROPE. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DOLLAR, VAN DER STOEL POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS TRYING TO GET AN ENERGY BILL THROUGH THE CONGRESS, SUGGESTING TO QUESTIONERS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION COULD NOT BE FAULTED FOR LACK OF CONCERN.

3. COMMENT: VAN DER STOEL BEGAN HIS ADDRESS BY NOTING THE

SHARP DROP OF THE PRESIDENT'S POPULARITY IN US POLLS AND THE HEAVY CRITICISM, PARTICULARLY IN GERMANY, OF THE HANDLING OF THE ERW ISSUE. HE SPOKE AT THE TIME WHEN CHARGES OF VACILLATON AND BAD HANDLING ARE STILL ECHOING IN THE DUTCH PRESS. VAN DER STOEL PUT HIMSELF SQUARELY BEHIND THE PRESIDENT. IN DECLARING HIS SUPPORT FOR US POLICIES, VAN DER STOEL AMPLY REINFORCED HIS REPUTATION AS AN ATLANTICIST. BROWN

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: PEPR, NL, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (VAN DER STOEL, MAX)

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